

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action dated April 21, 2006. Claims 25 to 48, 58 and 63 to 75 are pending in the application, with Claims 60 to 62 having been cancelled. Claims 25 to 48 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 58, 74 and 75 have been amended. Of the claims presented for examination, Claims 58, 74 and 75 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for again indicating that Claims 62, 67 and 71 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claims. In keeping with the indication of allowable subject matter of Claim 62 in the October 31, 2005 Office Action, Applicants have amended each of the rejected independent claims to include the substance of Claim 62 as presented in the April 25, 2005 Preliminary Amendment. Claims 60 to 62 have consequently been cancelled. Accordingly, independent Claims 58, 74 and 75 as amended, together with their dependent claims, are seen to be in condition for allowance.


The Office Action entered rejections of Claims 58, 60, 61, 74 and 75 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,899,985 (Tanaka) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,662,235 (Callis), and of Claims 63 to 66, 68 to 70, 72 and 73 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Tanaka in view of Callis and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,500,715 (Ta). The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding correctness of the rejections, but rather strictly to obtain an earlier allowance.

Regarding a formal matter, it is respectfully requested to receive an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 that was submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement dated June 1, 2006.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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